

which would suit varying road conditions, animal sizes, load levels etc. The cost ranges between Rs. 1,200 and Rs. 2,800. Improved harnessing and yoking systems have been developed and the traditional wheel has been preserved. Tests are under progress under field conditions.

The Ministry of Shipping and Transport (Road Wing) have recently sponsored a research scheme for improved design of bullock carts. It will take sometime before the results are available.

(c) Total number of animal driven carts in the country is estimated at about 150 lakhs. Since the carts are owned in the house-hold sector and are of widely varying types and costs, a precise estimation of the total investment and the total employment on them is not possible.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Depending upon the results of the Trials the Government will consider suitable steps for introduction of the improved design in rural areas.

#### **Schools for Resettlement Colonies of Delhi**

\*732. SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA S. DEO: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the D.D.A. would build Higher Secondary Schools in the 21 resettlement colonies in Delhi; and

(b) if so, the details with respect to finances and management of the same?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI P. C. SETHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Lt. Governor of Delhi who is also the Chairman of Delhi Development Authority has intimated that the schools will be constructed by the Delhi Development Authority but the total cost of the schools, including

land buildings, would be met out of funds raised through voluntary contributions.

#### **Delay in supplying Sugar and Wheat to Ration Card holders in Delhi**

\*733. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN

SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there have been delays in supplying sugar and wheat to the ration card holders at fair price shops in Delhi in the third week of June and 1st week of July, 1980; and

(b) if so, the reasons thereof and the arrangements made by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI BIRENDRA SINGH RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The supply of specified food articles like wheat and sugar got interrupted during the period in question due to "go slow" and 'work-to-rule' agitation of the employees of the Food Corporation of India, which ended in the 1st week of July, 1980. The position has since come back to normal and regular supplies of specified food articles from F.C.I. godowns to the Fair Price Shops are now being made.

#### **Check on Excess Telephone Billing**

\*734. KUMARI KAMLA KUMARI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the steps so far taken to check the Telephone Deptt. for excess billing have failed;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to take some more effective steps to check the excess billing; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

**THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI C. M. STEPHEN):**

(a) No Sir, the steps taken by the P & T Department for reducing excess billing complaints have not failed, the complaint rate has come down.

(b) and (c). The P&T Department has taken the following additional steps to facilitate decisions on excess metering/complaints:

(i) Automatic charge analysers are being imported and these will record details of all the calls dialled by the subscriber under observation.

(ii) An automatic message accounting equipment is under field trial. With this equipment, details of all STD calls made by the subscribers can be recorded separately.

(iii) In addition the Telegraph Act is being amended providing for deterrent punishment for unauthorised diversion of subscribers' lines.

**Central Arid Zone Research Institute,  
Jodhpur**

\*735. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state.

(a) what has been the contribution of the Central Arid Zone Research Institute, Jodhpur in the development of the desert areas as a result of their research work in this regard;

(b) their special achievements in this regard; and

(c) the scheme of the said Institute for the next five years?

**THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI BIRENDRA SINGH RAO):** (a) and (b). The Central Arid Zone Research Institute, Jodhpur is undertaking the scientific research for developing suitable technology for reclaiming the desert lands. The

salient achievements in this regard are as follows:—

(i) The Institute has developed a technology for sand dune stabilization. This technology has already been demonstrated successfully over 1000 hectares of shifting sand, which were threatening the towns of Bikaner, Jhunjhunu, Sardar Sahar, Sikar and Barmer etc.

(ii) Pasture and range management research has also been taken up for developing the desert areas and increasing the productivity of arid land. As a result of these studies, important grasses and trees for arid areas have been identified, their production, techniques evolved and recommended for adoption by the cultivators and the nomadic graziers. Among the species, *Panicum turgidum*; *Panicum antidotale*; *Cenchrus ciliaris*, *Acacia tortilis* and *Prosopis juliflora* have given encouraging results.

(iii) The sand dune stabilization technology so far developed is being demonstrated extensively under Drought Prone Area Programme which has been implemented by Government of India in different states of the country.

(iv) The Arid Zone Horticulture Technology has also been developed and demonstrated by the Central Arid Zone Research Institute successfully. Fruit species like 'Ber' have given encouraging results.

(v) The desert development technology evolved at the Central Arid Zone Research Institute, Jodhpur has been recognised internationally and training programme in this field has also been organised at this Institute by UNESCO and FAO.

(vi) The Central Arid Zone Research Institute, Jodhpur has in collaboration with UNESCO and UNDP taken up a 'Case study on desertification' and 'Feasibility study on monitoring of Desert